COUNTDOWN TO ABSOLUTE POWER

DC

10

THE FLASH

SPURRIER
PÉREZ
GEORGIEV
HERMS

FLASH HITS THE WALL!

13+
TEEN

DAWN OF DC

POWERS STOLEN.

SPIRITS UNBROKEN.

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ABSOLUTE POWER

A four-issue blockbuster series
from MARK WAID and DAN MORA

STARTING IN JULY

THE TRINITY OF EVIL HAS WON...

AND

ABSOLUTE POWER BEGINS!

JUNE:

- [ ] *Absolute Power: Ground Zero* #1

TIE-IN:

- [ ] *Green Arrow* #13

JULY:

- [ ] *Absolute Power* #1
- [ ] *Absolute Power: Task Force VII* #1
- [ ] *Absolute Power: Origins* #1
- [ ] *Absolute Power: Task Force VII* #2
- [ ] *Absolute Power: Task Force VII* #3

TIE-INS:

- [ ] *Batman* #150
- [ ] *Green Lantern* #13
- [ ] *Superman* #16
- [ ] *Wonder Woman* #11
- [ ] *Green Arrow* #14

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THE RESISTANCE CONTINUES IN AUGUST!

...

Something's changed.

Wally.

W-WALLY, I'M ***FADING.***

I DON'T HAVE LONG. Y-YOU HAVE TO ***REMEMBER!*** YOU HAVE TO TURN BACK TO THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE YOU!

Wally!

Hm?

WHO'S...

YAAAAWN

*...Who's **Wally?***

And...*hey.* WHAT'S BLOCKING MY LIGHT?

Oh. Right. JUST THAT STATUE OF THE-- *what was it?* ***ARCH-***SOME-THING?

Whatever. I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT THAT WAS ALL ***ABOUT.***

IT IS TIME, WALLY WEST.

Wh-wh-wh--

DO NOT STAMMER SO, OH PRIME CONDUIT. YOU ASKED WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.

IT'S ABOUT TIME.

ISSUE TEN:
"RUN RED"
WRITTEN BY
SIMON SPURRIER
ART BY
RAMÓN PÉREZ
& VASCO GEORGIEV
COLORS BY
MATT HERMS
LETTERED BY
HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU

COVER BY
RAMÓN PÉREZ
VARIANT COVERS BY
MATT TAYLOR
OTTO SCHMIDT
DC PRIDE
VARIANT COVER BY
NICK ROBLES

EDITOR
CHRIS ROSA
GROUP EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI

TIME'S GONE **SCREWY...**

PILOT-- THIS IS **AMANDA WALLER.** WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT'S GOING ON?

Uhhh, BEST GUESS, MA'AM?

FLASH JUST SHOOK OFF THE ENERGY TETHERS AND BOOTED ME OUT OF HIS SLIPSTREAM.

I ASSUME THE **RUN RED PROTOCOL'S** KICKED IN AND MY BRAIN CAN'T KEEP UP. IT'S KINDA TRIPPY.

KEEP IT TOGETHER. THE A.I.'S TRYING TO PREDICT A **TARGETING SOLUTION.** *LET IT COOK.*

SURE. It's just... LISTEN, THIS TECH WORKED ONCE BEFORE-- BUT ONLY WHEN FLASH WAS **JOKERIZED.** I'M NOT REAL CONFIDENT OUT HERE.

YOUR CONFIDENCE IS WORTH LESS TO ME THAN A FART IN A SPACESUIT, PILOT.

YOU'RE WEARING SEVERAL BILLION DOLLARS OF REVERSE-ENGINEERED **TECH,** *LINKED TO A* **SERVER FARM** *CRUNCHING NUMBERS FASTER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE.*

YOU'RE ONLY THERE ON THE OFF CHANCE YOU CAN TALK HIM DOWN.

HEY, BATS-- IS THAT **YOU** IN THERE? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU **THINKING,** PAL?

YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T GET THE DROP ON ME.

TARGETING SOLUTION ACHIEVED. DEPLOYING FRICTIONLESS CONDENSATE.

AND **YOU** KNOW, **PAL**-- I CAN DO WHATEVER I PUT MY MIND TO.

I'M BATMAN! AUTHORITARIAN GOTH BUZZKILL!
WHAAAAAAA--?!
--AAAAA
AAAAA--
NoNOcalm calmCALM.
S-SUPER-FLUIDITY. CAN'T STEER, CAN'T SLOW DOWN...
Hrrr. Y'know... I DON'T THINK YOU ARE HIM. Nnf! I THINK YOU'RE JUST SOME PARASITE WHO RETOOLED HIS CASTOFFS.
BATMAN SCRAPPED THE JUSTICE BUSTER AFTER IT TOOK DOWN THE WHOLE LEAGUE. KNOW WHY?

HE KNOWS HIS FRIENDS ARE **QUICK LEARNERS.**

PILOT! SENSORS SHOW HE--

YEAH. USED HIS **AURA** TO DISPLACE THE FLUID. I **TOLD** YOU-- HIS CROWD'S GETTING REAL **INVENTIVE** WITH THAT SPEED FORCE MAMMA JAMMA.

SO **PROVE YOURSELF,** B-MAN. REAL NAMES. YOURS OR MINE.

NO DICE. WALLER'S LISTENING.

HER DATA SHOWS SPEEDSTERS ARE KILLING THE WORLD. DOESN'T MEAN I WANT TO BLOW YOUR COVER.

FOR THE LAST TIME: **STAND DOWN.** PLEASE.

Heh. NOW I **KNOW** YOU'RE A FRAUD.

BATMAN **NEVER** SAYS PLEASE.

PILOT! WHY ARE YOU ACTIVATING **MANUAL** CONTROLS? THE COMPUTER'S STILL ANALYZING HIS BEHAVIOR! IT'LL CREATE A PR--

HELL IT WILL. Billions of dollars to miss the entire freaking point.

A.I. CAN'T **CREATE,** LADY. ALL IT DOES IS REGURGITATE OLD #@$% IN **PRETTY PATTERNS.** SITUATION LIKE **THIS,** WHAT'S NEEDED--

--IS A LITTLE **SPOOKY** INTUITION.

The issue takes place after the shocking events of ***GREEN ARROW #13!***
--CHRIS

BAAATSLAAAAMM!

WE'VE CRUNCHED THE NUMBERS A GAJILLION TIMES.

AND ***YEAH,*** I HEARD WHAT BARRY SAID. CONSPIRACY OF ROGUES, COSMIC FRAME-UP...

...BUT WE TRACKED THE TIP-OFF TO THE ***SOURCE WALL.***

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT: IT CAME FROM THE ***ARC ANGLES.***

WHY WOULD N+h-DIMENSIONAL OMNIVALENT UBERBEINGS LIE ABOUT THIS, *huh?* AND EVEN IF THEY DID--

--THE DATA DOESN'T.

SPEEDSTERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPENDING DESTRUCTION OF THE MULTIVERSE. END OF STORY.

WOULD YOU ***PLEASE*** QUIT WITH THE DOOMY SCIENCE-BABBLE AND FINISH WHAT YOU'RE DOING?!

Y'know, DAD ALWAYS SAYS HE KINDA ***ENJOYS*** DOING THAT.

Like-- it's ***gross,*** *obviously--* BUT IT MAKES HIM FEEL LIKE... PART OF THE PROCESS.

"FAMILY DUTIES-- TOP PRIORITY!"

I do not approve of family doodies.

Hm. I GUESS-- LIKE SO MUCH IN THE BUSINESS OF ***WEIRD SCIENCE--***

--IT'S ALL A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE.

FWOOSH!

YOU'RE *LITERALLY* CHANGING YOUR OWN DIAPER. ISN'T THAT, *like*, A TIME PARADOX, OR SOMETHING?

...Perspective...

YOU ONCE TOLD ME, "CHANGE THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THINGS-- AND THE THINGS YOU LOOK AT WILL CHANGE."

MAYBE... THE NUMBERS *ARE* RIGHT...

...BUT ONLY BECAUSE *REALITY'S* WRONG.

YOU...

...YOU...

I'M WITHIN RANGE. DEPLOYING THE ***ARTIFACT*** NOW.

DIAL IT UP! MAXIMUM EXPOSURE!

NEGATIVE, MA'AM. I'VE SEEN THE SIMULATIONS. IF WE CUT HIS ACCESS TO THE ***SPEED FORCE*** TOO HARD, THE FEEDBACK'LL ***KILL*** HIM.

The... the *tentacle* they took from Terrifictech. Wh-who *are* you? *Really?*

A ***FRIEND.***

YOU'RE PART OF THE PROBLEM, FLASH. DON'T MAKE ME ***SOLVE*** YOU.

BARRIER PLEASE

...

PILOT... HIS LINK'S STILL TOO STRONG! HE'S MANIPULATING HIS ***AURA!***

HE'S GONNA RELEASE A PHOTONIC B--

BOOOM

SOLVE THIS.

SEE YA AROUND, BAT-FRAUD.

ENERGY SENSORS COMPROMISED. DEPLOYING COUNTER-MEASURES.

What? NO, SUIT, STOP, DON'T--

YAAAAA!

SHUP

KTOOM

STOP! FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, IT'LL KILL YOU!

N-NOT... hrrr...

...IF IT... KILLS... YOU FIRST--

DEPLOYING ZERO-FRICTION FLUID.

%#@$!

F-fine... LET'S... LET'S EVEN THE ODDS.

PILOT-- WHAT'S HE DOING? WE'VE LOST HALF THE SENSORS. IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S--

--HE'S ADJUSTING HIS VIBRATIONS, OR--

Oh no... the signal...

WHAT SI--

YOU IDIOTS! HE'S MATCHED THE FREQUENCY OF THE DATA STREAM! HE CAN TRACK IT TO ITS SOURCE!

Y-YOUR EXPENSIVE €%#@ A.I. ISN'T WORTH A DAMN IF IT DOESN'T HAVE THE--

BUREAU OF SOVEREIGNTY

ZZRRGG

--server farm.

BURI
SOVE

$YSTEMOFFLINESY
EMOFFLINESYSTEN
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Hrrr.

I'M... I'M SORRY, PAL. I DIDN'T WANT IT TO COME TO THIS. But...

...NO MORE SPEED FORCE, OKAY?

KWOMP

LET'S DO THIS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.

THE ARC ANGLES LIED.

I... I DON'T--

THE DATA'S RIGHT, BUT ONLY 'CAUSE SOMEONE'S ***TWISTED REALITY.*** *Like...* FOLDING A PAGE OF ***MATH*** SO THE WRONG NUMBER SOLVES THE EQUATION.

Ah ***nuts...***

THE DISTURBANCE-- IT'S COMING FROM ***HIGHER UP.*** *Like,* AS HIGH AS IT'S POSSIBLE TO ***GO...***

Uh-oh...

WHATEVER'S CAUSING THE SPEED FORCE TO ***SPASM***-- IT'S NOT SPEEDSTERS. DAD AND THE REST, THEY'RE GETTING HIT JUST AS BAD AS ANYONE...

Uh-oh. AH THINK THE JIG'S ***UP,*** LADS...

We must anticipate the ***displeasure*** of the miungu...

BASICALLY-- GOD'S HAVING A SEIZURE, THE SPEED FORCE HAS GONE LOOPY, AND REALITY'S FALLING APART.

AND SOME BOOGER BRAIN'S TRYING TO PIN IT ON MY DAD.

...HOW DID YOU FIGURE THIS OUT, JAI?

Ah, IT'S A DAD THING. Like, IF I'VE HAD A ROUGH DAY, OR MOM'S STUCK ON A PIECE OF WRITING, OR-- whatever.

"HE COMES IN WITH A BIG SMILE-- SOMETIMES **DONUTS,** TOO-- AND HE SAYS--

"'--CHANGE THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THINGS...'"

"...AND THE THINGS YOU LOOK AT WILL CHANGE."

RIGHT.

Look, I DON'T EVEN **BEGIN** TO UNDERSTAND THIS WHOLE **"SHAPER"** THING. BUT... WHOEVER'S BEEN SCREWING WITH REALITY, SO THAT THE MATH READS WRONG?

I CAN STRAIGHTEN OUT THE FOLDS.

Well now.

IT'LL TAKE SOME WORK, FIGURING OUT **WHY** THE ARC ANGLES **LIED.** Buuuuut... IF THEY'RE SO DAMN **KEEN** ON TAKING SPEEDSTERS OFF THE TABLE...

"...I'M INCLINED TO DO THE *OPPOSITE.*"

SMAK

Hehhh... Th...THAT ALL YA GOT...?

FLASH, *PLEASE.* GO *LIMP.* STAY *DOWN.*

...?

Wh... what's that...

...*buzzing* sound...

Oh. **Ha.** I get it.

Y'know... US *FLASHES...?* WE'RE ALL *DIFFERENT.*

I'M NOT *LIKE* W-- THE *MAIN* ONE. I'M NOT BEING PULLED A DOZEN WAYS. BUT...

...THERE'S *ONE THING* WE ALL GOT IN COMMON.

DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU *TRY.* VOICES IN OUR HEADS... %@#*£ IN CYBERSUITS...

...MARATHON OR SPRINT, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE WE EACH *REMEMBER--*

WE.

DON'T.

STOP.

Hh. Hhh.

KNOW *WHY?*

BECAUSE WE GOT A *FAMILY* TO KEEP US GOING.

TICK, *TICK*, *TICK*...

Wh--?

KA-DOOM

W-WALLER'S GOT IT **WRONG,** "FRIEND."

AND NOT JUST ABOUT **THIS.**

EVAC PROTOCOLS INITIATED.

RETRIEVAL BALLISTIC DEPLOYED.

BRACE FOR ACCELERATION.

WHAT? **BUT--**

KOOOSH

L-LET HIM GO. I THINK HIS HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE, WHOEVER HE IS.

MAYBE HE CAN PUT IN A GOOD WORD WITH THE WICKED WITCH.

WALLER! DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID? THIS LITTLE MESS HAS **BADLY** DENTED MY CONFIDENCE IN YOAAAAAHHH--!

I **TOLD** YOU, MR. QUEEN-- YOUR CONFIDENCE MEANS **NOTHING** TO ME. ONLY THE **ADVANTAGES** YOU BRING.

TODAY YOU HAVE PROVIDED SOME INVALUABLE **INTELLIGENCE.**

I... I have...?

?

OH **YES.** WE CAN CONFIRM THAT BATMAN'S DEFUNCT TECHNOLOGY IS NOT ADEQUATE TO NEUTRALIZE THE SO-CALLED **HEROES** OF THE WORLD.

WE SHALL HAVE TO EXPEDITE OUR **OTHER** PLANS.

YOU ARE THE LINCHPIN OF OUR PLANS, WALLY WEST.

OH, SUCH **DIVINE DESIGNS**... WE HAVE WAITED **SO LONG** FOR YOU TO BE READY...

YOUR **MEMORY,** GONE. ALL THE STRINGS OF EXPERIENCE AND LOVE THAT DISTRACTED YOU-- **ERASED.** DISSOLVED BY THIS LONELY **GALLERY.** OUR GIFT TO YOU.

AT LAST YOU ARE **PERFECT.** AN **EMPTY VESSEL.** AN **UNSULLIED CONDUIT,** LINKING THESE MUNDANE FREQUENCIES TO THE **SOURCE** OF YOUR POWER.

THE... THE S-SPEED... FORCE...

WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU WHAT IT **IS.**

ONCE AND FOR ALL.

...AND **THEN...** WHEN YOU HAVE WITNESSED THE **HORROR** IT CAUSES...

...WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MULTIVERSE COULD SO **EASILY** BE A PLACE OF **PERFECTION...** WITHOUT PAIN OR DEATH OR SUFFERING...

...THEN WE WILL DRAW INTO YOU THE **DIVINE WEAPON.**

YOU WILL BE THE **SYRINGE.** HE--**THEY**-- WILL BE THE POISON.

KILL! KILL! KILL! KILL! KILL!

WE WILL USE THE CONDUIT THAT LINKS YOU TO A HIGHER POWER... TO SEND THIS HELLISH MIND PAST THE EDGE OF INFINITY...

...AND-- IN SO DOING-- AT LONG LAST--

--WE SHALL MURDER TIME ITSELF.

TO BE CONTINUED...

METROPOLIS.

GO! GO! GO!

ABSOLUTE POWER #1 PREVIEW

MARK WAID writer DAN MORA artist ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ colors ARIANA MAHER letters
MATTHEW LEVINE associate editor PAUL KAMINSKI editor
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

WE'RE NOT G-GONNA *MAKE* IT!

STOP BROWNIN' YOUR *PANTS,* JOEY! WE'RE *CLEAR,* AWRIGHT?

SSSS

AAAAAH!

SKRNNKKKK

NOT SO *FAST.*

HERE'S THE THING ABOUT *SILENT ALARMS,* BOYS...

...THEY'RE *NEVER* SILENT TO *ME.*

I'LL GIVE YOU *ONE CHANCE* TO SURRENDER *PEACEFULLY.*

NO! YOU GUYS *P-PROMISED* ME WE'D BE--

I C-CAN'T GO TO P-P-*PRISON!* I *CAN'T!*

JOEY, STOP *PANICKIN'!*

YOU'LL JUST MAKE IT *WORSE!*

JOEY, *NO!*

BLAM!

BLAM!

VPPP

VPPP

THE POWER DRAIN BEGINS IN
ABSOLUTE
#1
POWER
ON SALE IN JULY!

THE DARK KNIGHT'S SECRET IDENTITY IS FOR SALE IN THIS SPECIAL OVERSIZE ISSUE!

BATMAN #150

ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

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WRITTEN BY
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ART BY
JORGE JIMÉNEZ
DENYS COWAN
JOHN STANISCI
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DC

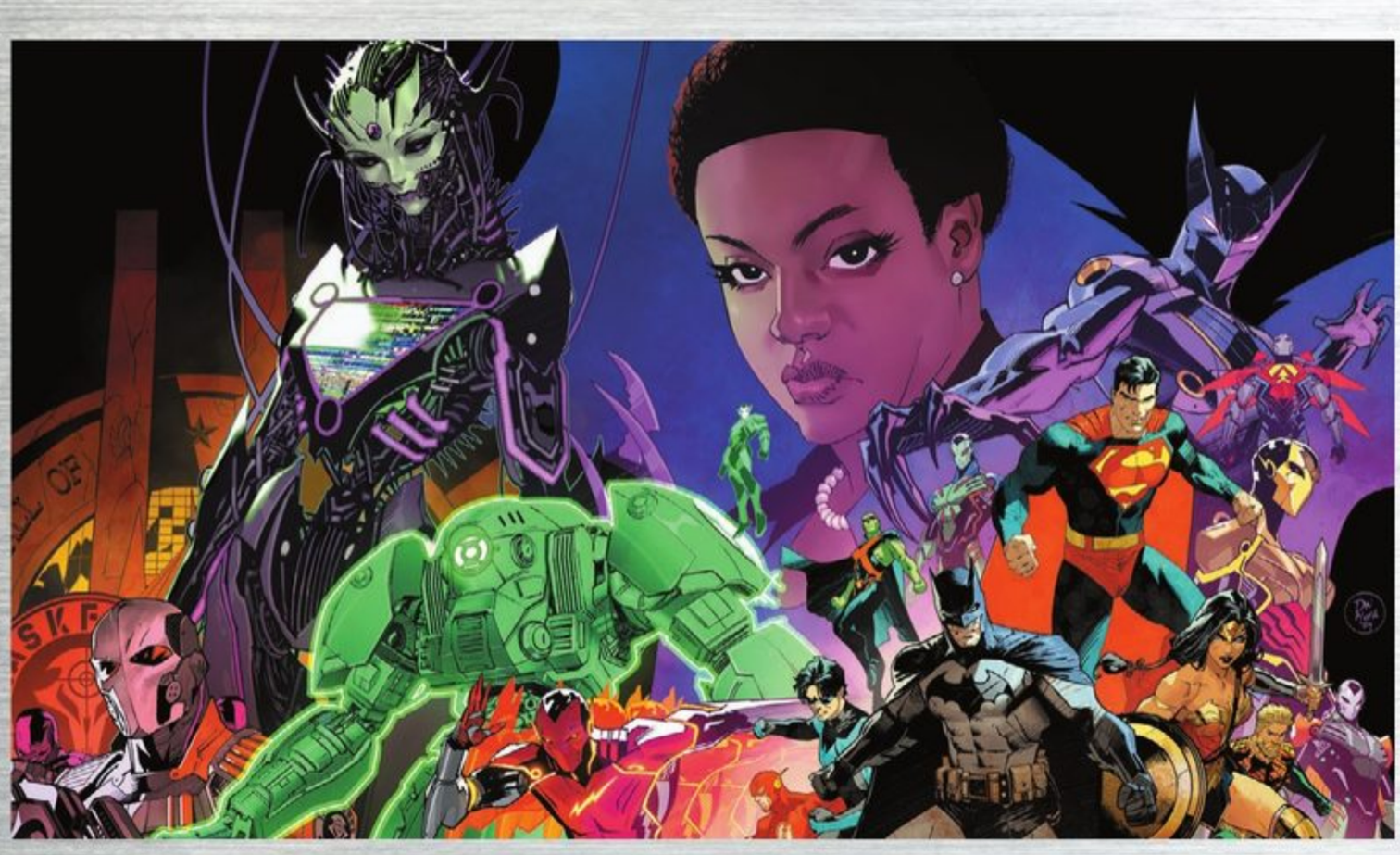
JULY

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

ABSOLUTE POWER

INTERVIEW WITH MARK WAID

Thanks to the combined forces of Failsafe and the Brainiac Queen, Amanda Waller has stolen the metahuman abilities of every hero and villain on Earth. But it's not the powers that make DC's heroes super, and in *Absolute Power* by the superstar team of writer Mark Waid and artist Dan Mora, a resistance will rise to take the fight to Waller's Task Force VII—though the odds have never been worse for our heroes.



Mark, what does taking away the powers of DC's heroes allow you to explore in these characters that fans haven't seen before?

Genuine, down-to-the-bone fear. Not only are the heroes utterly powerless, but every resource has been taken from them. Because Waller knows everyone's secrets, she's been able to cut heroes off from their home bases and strip them of their equipment—no Bat-arsenal for you, Bruce; no Terrifictech for you, Mr. Terrific; no lasso for you, Wonder Woman. Waller's sealed the time stream. She's walled off the Multiverse and the Microverse. She's had the Earth quarantined by the United Planets, leaving the heroes nowhere to run, nowhere to retreat. Ordinary people won't help the heroes because Waller's used A.I. fake news to convince humanity that the heroes have gone berserk. And the relentless Amazos just won't stop hunting them, not for one second.

Remember, I've read every single DC superhero comic ever, and I am here to tell you, I set out to make things more hopeless for our heroes than they have ever been. And that's just in the first issue.

***Absolute Power* encompasses multiple heroes and villains from across the DC Universe. Who are you having the most fun writing in this story? Which characters should readers keep an eye on that might be unexpected?**

I think everyone will be surprised at who's leading the powerless heroes—it's not Superman, Batman, or Wonder Woman, but the choice, to me, was obvious. Jon Kent and Dreamer have also become major players, as has Steve Trevor.

Plus, from the Island of Totally Forgotten Heroes, we've drafted Air Wave into the fight for a very specific reason. And what the hell is happening with Green Arrow, man?

Fans are familiar with the pairing of you and Dan Mora from *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, but what are you seeing from his work in *Absolute Power* that has surprised you?

I didn't know Dan *could* surprise me any further, but I was wrong. The stakes in *Absolute Power* are so, so much higher than they are in *World's Finest*, and Dan expertly creates a sense of dread that permeates every page of this book.

DON'T MISS ABSOLUTE POWER #1, ON SALE IN JULY!

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